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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masami ADACHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1732

Application No.: 10/058,374

Examiner: M. Poe

Filed: January 30, 2002

Docket No.: 111781

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CUTTING AND SHAPING RUBBER BAND MEMBERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ 3. The reference was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

- ☒ 4. An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 8, 2004

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
111781APPLICATION NO.
10/058,374

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)
Masami ADACHI et al.FILING DATE
January 30, 2002GROUP
1732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
|--|--|----------------------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|
| | | EP 1072395 (with Abstract) | 01/31/2001 | Europe | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: April 8, 2004